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Two criticisms may be made upon the work as a whole. First, its bulk is rather unfortunate, for doubtless many who would be glad to get at the general results will hesitate to read so large a book. Second, it would have been a great convenience had it been indexed. These are minor criticisms, however, for the work is a most important and valuable one. It should perhaps be mentioned that, while this work on the Illinois River was planned and carried out by Dr. Kofoid, it may, after all, be considered as the direct outcome of work which has been carried on by the director of the laboratory, Dr. S. A. Forbes, for the past generation.—C. DWIGHT MARSH.

MINOR NOTICES.

THE FIRST VOLUME of the *Jahresbericht der Vereinigung der Vertreter der angewandten Botanik* contains several articles of interest from the standpoint of applied botany. ADERHOLD[4] reviews the present status of our knowledge of Bordeaux mixture, discussing critically the results of Clark, Sturgis, Bain, Rumm, and others who have investigated the action of this fungicide, both on parasites and host plants. SCHULZE[5] discusses the influence of sterilization of soil on plants grown therein. It is found that this influence differs both with the character of the soil and with the kinds of plants used. The author points out that these factors ought to be considered in experiments where plants are grown in sterilized soil. NESTLER[6] has investigated the occurrence of thein in the tea plant. The substance is found present in varying amounts in the leaves, bark, flowers, fruit, and seeds; in fact in all parts of the plant except the roots and wood. An article by WIELER[7] deals with some little-observed smoke injuries. The author calls special attention to poisoning of the soil under trees in the vicinity of smelters due to sulfurous acid and other substances dissolved in rain water. This poisoning of the soil produces premature autumnal coloration of the leaves, especially in the beech. Other articles deal with seed testing and with fermentation.—H. HASSELBRING.

THE SECOND PART of Grout's[8] *Mosses with a hand-lens and microscope* well sustains the promise of its predecessor, as we judge from advance sheets with which we have been favored. The issue completes the Dicranaceae, Grimmiaceae, and Ephemeraceae, and presents a good part of the Tortulaceae. The plates are remarkably good reduced reproductions of those of the *Bryologia Europaea*, as are most of the figures, which sometimes cover a half page or more. The figures original in this work are well drawn and illustrate critical features of various species. The comments of the author will also be very helpful to those for whom the book is intended. All in all, the work is admirable both in conception and in execution. It is difficult to understand how it can be sold profitably at the very low price asked.—C. R. B.

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[4] ADERHOLD, R., Der heutige Stand unseres Kenntnisse über die Wirkung und Verwert und der Bordeauxbrühe als Pflanzenschutzmittel. Jahresb. Vereinig. Vert. angew. Bot. 1: 12–36. 1903.

[5] SCHULZE, C., Einige Beobachtungen über die Einwirkung der Boden-sterilization auf die Entwickelung der Pflanzen. *ibid.* 37–44.

[6] NESTLER, A., Untersuchungen über das Thein der Theepflanze. *ibid.* 54–61.

[7] WIELER, A., Wenig beachtete Rauchbeschädigungen. *ibid.* 62–78.

[8] GROUT, A. J., Mosses with a hand lens and microscope. Part II. Imp. 8vo. pp. 87–166. *figs. 36–76. pls. 11–35.* Brooklyn: The author. $1.00. 1904.

THE FACT that an unhealthy or wounded tree is neither ornamental nor serviceable dominates every page of the little volume entitled *The tree doctor*.[9] The titles of the three sections into which the book is divided are : tree surgery; ornamental; landscaping and floriculture. In the first part, where, how, and when to prune a tree are discussed, while the two latter titles deal with the problems of landscape gardening. The book is written in a somewhat sensational and extravagant style, and it contains numerous statements in regard to the physiology and pathology of plants that will seem queer to the scientific reader. The volume is intended, however, for the layman, and it will doubtless stimulate him to a better care of his fruit-bearing and ornamental trees. —C. D. HOWE.

C. F. MILLSPAUGH[10] has issued the Compositae of his flora of Yucatan. In addition to the plates, there are numerous excellent cuts from drawings by Miss Agnes Chase, showing a portion of the inflorescence or a single head natural size, the achene magnified, and a cross-section of the achene at its greatest diameter. The display of the family is somewhat remarkable in that there are no large genera among the 58 enumerated. The new species in old genera are only three in number (Parthenium, Salmea, Encelia), and a new genus (*Plagiolophus*) of Verbesinae is described by J. M. Greenman.— J. M. C.

THE SIXTH FASCICLE of Dalle Torre and Harms's *Genera Siphonogamarum*[11] has just appeared, including genera from Gentianaceae (6492. Geniostemon) to Acanthaceae (7937. Mimulopsis).—J. M. C.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS.

IWANHOFF[12] finds that proteids are not destroyed in the course of alcoholic fermentation, because the decomposition of the sugar forms substances which inhibit the action of the proteolytic enzymes.—C. R. B.

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[9] DAVEY, JOHN, The tree doctor, a book on tree culture illustrated profusely with photographs. 8vo. pp. 88. *figs. 167*. Akron, Ohio: Published by the author. 1902. $1.00.

[10] MILLSPAUGH, C. F., Plantae Yucatanae (regionis antillanae). Plants of the insular, coastal, and plain regions of the peninsula of Yucatan, Mexico. Fasc. 2. Compositae (with Agnes Chase). Pp. 85–151. *pls. 9* and numerous text cuts. Field Columb. Mus. Bot. Series **3**: no. 2. April 1904.

[11] DALLA TORRE, C. G. DE, and HARMS, H., Genera Siphonogamarum ad systema Englerianum conscripta. Fasc. 6, pp. 401–480. Leipzig: Wilhelm Engelmann, 1904. *M*4.

[12] IWANHOFF, L., Ueber das Verhalten der Eiweissstoffe bei der alkoholischen Gärung. Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesells. **22**: 203–206. 1904.